

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
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March 14, 2016

Edward Hannon
Environmental, Safety, Health, and Medical Manager
Northrup Grumman Systems Corporation
925 South Oyster Bay Road
Bethpage, NY 11714

Dear Mr. Hannon:

As you know, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Bethpage Water District agreed last summer to undertake a sampling program in an attempt to identify a source of the radium-impacts to Bethpage Water District public supply wells 4-1 and 4-2. Continued elevated levels of radium have forced well 4-1 to be kept off line since 2013. Well 4-2 well is still just in compliance with the combined radium MCL of 5.0 pCi/L. The running annual average is 3.5 – 4 pCi/L based on quarterly results. These levels are of great concern to DEC.

While a comprehensive investigation to identify the source of the radium is underway, and 52 wells have been sampled to date, DEC's evaluation of this data has led to the conclusion that it will be necessary to sample additional wells located between the Bethpage Water District Wells and the highest sample location near the OU 3 area of the former plant site. This location is upgradient of the Water District-impacted wells. DEC will conduct this sampling similar to the sampling done during the first phase of the study. After consulting with the Bethpage Water District to determine which wells will be sampled, DEC will notify Grumman which wells DEC will require access to in order to complete the additional sampling this spring. That demand will include at least all nine monitoring wells within OU 2 and OU 3.

In addition, DEC will require Grumman to complete and document a comprehensive description of any and all radioactive materials manufactured, handled or installed in any other products manufactured at the site during the period of operation.

Sincerely,



Basil Seggos
Acting Commissioner



Department of
Environmental
Conservation